Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0158

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APR 2 7 2004

GROUP 3600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

George H. HOFFMAN et al.

Title:

SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR A SUPPLY CHAIN IDENTIFICATION SCHEME FOR

GOODS

Appl. No.:

09/815,729

Filing Date:

03/23/2001

Examiner:

Elaine L. Gort

Art Unit:

3627

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 6, 2004, Applicants hereby elect Group II (Claims 7-18), drawn to a system and computer program product for identifying goods in a network-based supply chain management framework for prosecution in the subject application in order to advance the prosecution of this application.

Applicants, of course, reserve the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date April 26, 2004

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